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## (54) IMPROVEMENTS IN OR RELATING TO A TRAILER COUPLING

(71) We, SLÄPVAGNSKOPPLINGAR AB, of Box 216, s-462 01 Vänersborg, Sweden, a Swedish Company do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:

The present invention relates to a trailer coupling intended to be mounted on a traction vehicle.

The present invention seeks to provide a coupling in which there will be an even wearing of the coupling bolt.

According to one aspect of the invention there is provided a trailer coupling for use on a traction vehicle to couple a trailer thereto, said coupling having a housing with an opening, in which a towing eye of the trailer vehicle may be introduced to a coupling position, and a coupling bolt vertically movable in the housing is introduceable into the eye from a retracted position in the housing, the coupling bolt being divided perpendicularly to its length axis into two parts, above the portion intended for engagement with the towing eye, the lower of said two parts being journaled for free rotation about its length axis relative to the upper one.

According to another aspect of this invention there is provided a bolt forming part of a trailer coupling, said bolt being divided perpendicularly to its length axis into two parts, one of said parts being freely rotatable relative to the other of said parts.

In order that the invention may be more readily understood and so that further features thereof may be appreciated, the inven-

tion will now be described by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawing, which is a side view, partly in section, of a coupling bolt for a trailer coupling in accordance with the invention.

Referring to the drawing, in a coupling bolt 202, above the portion 204 which is intended for engagement with the towing eye, the bolt 202 is divided at 206 perpendicularly to its length axis, into two separate parts, generally designated 208 and 210 respectively. Between the parts 208, 210 there is a sliding bearing 212 and the head 216 of a bolt 214 screwed axially into the part 210 is rotatably journaled in an inner recess 218 in the part 208. The part 210 is thereby freely rotatable in both rotational directions about its length axis relative to the part 208.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention even wearing of the coupling bolt part 204 is obtained through the engagement with the towing eye. This is because, during the lifetime of the bolt, the part 210 will turn due to the turning of the towing eye.

### WHAT WE CLAIM IS:

1. A trailer coupling for use on a traction vehicle to couple a trailer thereto, said coupling having a housing with an opening, in which a towing eye of the trailer vehicle may be introduced to a coupling position, and a coupling bolt vertically movable in the housing is introduceable into the eye from a retracted position in the housing, the coupling bolt being divided perpendicularly to its length axis into two parts, above the portion intended for engagement with the towing eye, the lower of said two parts being jour-

nalled for free rotation about its length axis relative to the upper one.

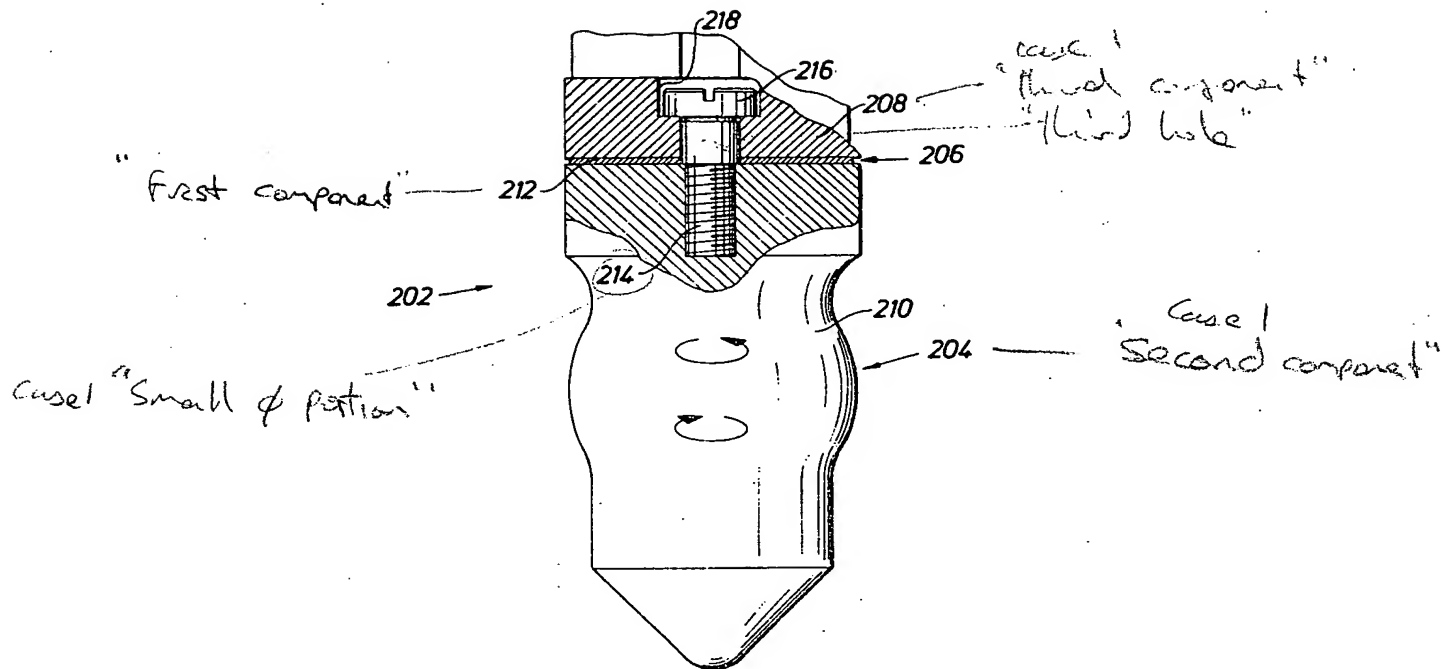
2. A bolt forming part of a trailer coupling, said bolt being divided perpendicularly to its length axis into two parts, one of said parts being freely rotatable relative to the other of said parts.

3. A trailer coupling substantially as herein described with reference to and as shown in the accompanying drawing.

4. A bolt substantially as herein described with reference to and as shown in the accompanying drawing.

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